

Merck Patent Case No. 20023Y
FLH Ref: 454313-7025
USSN 09/271,098

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : CHERN et al.
Serial No. : 09/271,098
Filing Date : March 18, 1999
For : *LIQUID POLYMERIC COMPOSITIONS
FOR CONTROLLED RELEASE OF BIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES*
Examiner : Shahnam J. Sharaeh
Art Unit : 1617

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AKD
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to the
United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date
appearing below.

MERCK & CO., INC.

By: 
Mitul I. Desai

Date: May 5, 2003

**REQUEST FOR TWO-MONTH TIME EXTENSION AND
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT WITH REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In further response to the November 5, 2002 Office Action, as originally
responded to with a Continued Prosecution Application (which the USPTO has treated as
an RCE) on March 5, 2003, Applicants respectfully request entry of the present
Amendment prior to examination of the above-identified application.

The Continued Prosecution Application was filed March 5, 2003, and was
accompanied by an authorization to charge fees for a one-month extension of time. Thus,
Applicants respectfully request an additional two-month extension to May 5, 2003 of the
deadline to respond. Any fee occasioned by this paper or any overpayment in fees may be
charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 13-2755.